

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 71-96 are pending in the application, with claim 71 being the independent claim. Claim 71 has been amended. Support for the amendment may be found in the original claims and throughout the specification, for example at paragraphs 91-92. Thus, no new matter has been added.

Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 71-84, 89, and 90 were rejected as being anticipated by Bohlander.

Amended claim 71 recites “a target nucleic acid fixed to a solid medium.” Bohlander does not teach “a target nucleic acid fixed to a solid medium.” Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 85-88 and 91-96 were rejected as being unpatentable over Bohlander.

Claims 71-96 were rejected as being unpatentable over Zheleznaya, et al., in view of Bohlander.

Claims 71-96 were rejected as being unpatentable over Grothues, et al., in view of Bohlander.

Amended claim 71 recites “a target nucleic acid fixed to a solid medium.” The cited references considered individually or collectively, do not teach “a target nucleic acid fixed to a solid medium.”

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding objections and rejections. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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